LIBRARY
Brigham Young University
RARE BOOK COLLECTION
Rare
PR
6003
.E4
T45
1923
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY
3 1197 22968 6776

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
Brigham Young University

https://archive.org/details/thingsnewold00beer

THINGS NEW AND OLD

Other Books by Max Beerbohm

THE WORKS OF MAX BEERBOHM
MORE
YET AGAIN
AND EVEN NOW

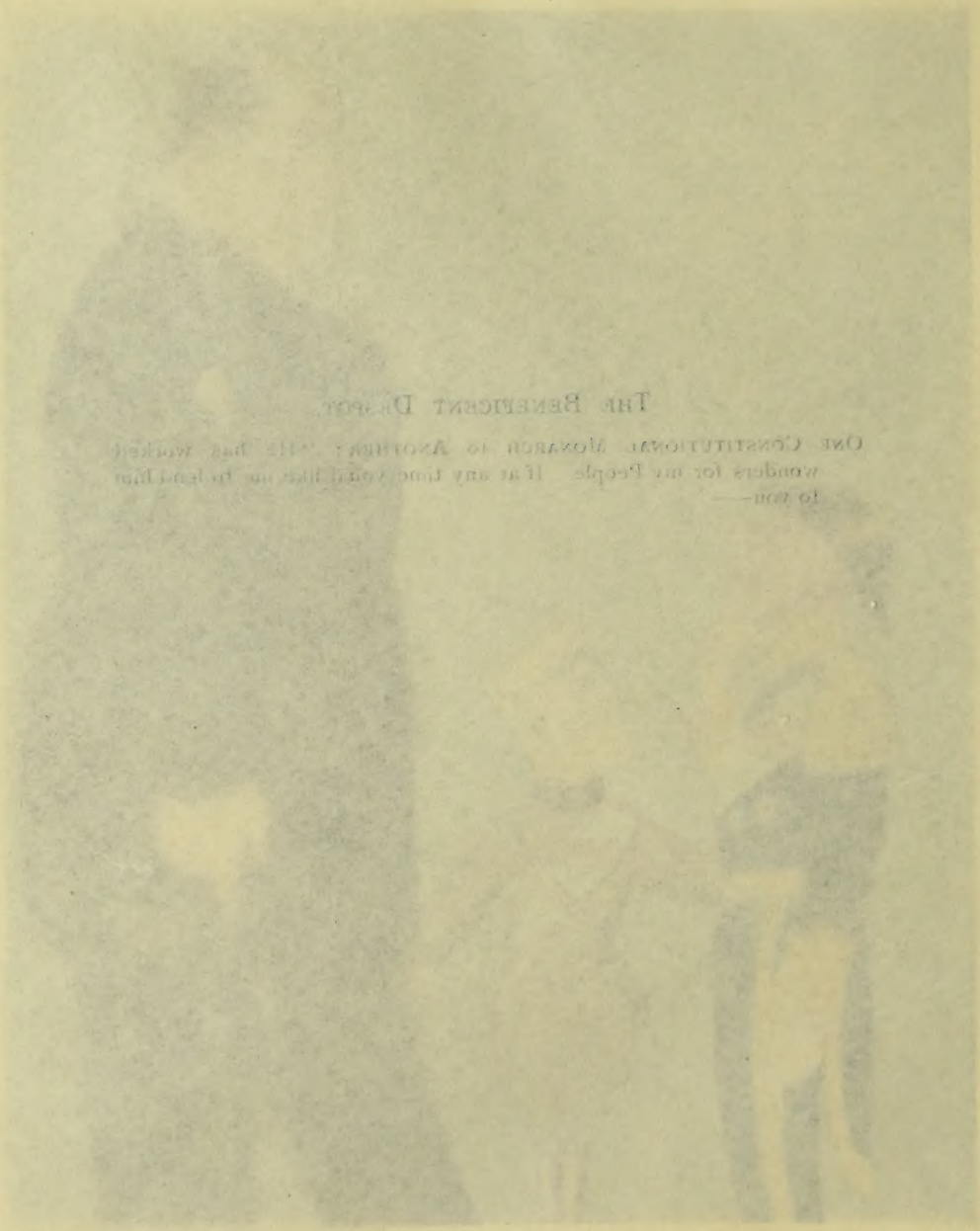
A CHRISTMAS GARLAND

THE HAPPY HYPOCRITE
ZULEIKA DOBSON
SEVEN MEN

CARICATURES OF TWENTY-FIVE GENTLEMEN
THE POET'S CORNER
THE SECOND CHILDHOOD OF JOHN BULL
A BOOK OF CARICATURES
FIFTY CARICATURES
A SURVEY
ROSSETTI AND HIS CIRCLE

THE BENEFICENT DESPOT.

ONE CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCH to ANOTHER: "He has worked wonders for my People. If at any time you'd like me to lend him to you——"



THINGS NEW AND OLD

BY

MAX BEERBOHM

LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN LTD.

First published 1923.

Printed in Great Britain by R. Clay & Sons, Ltd., Bungay, Suffolk.

UPB

NOTE

The drawings reproduced in this book were shown at the Leicester Galleries last summer. There were also a few others, which, with the consent of Messrs. Ernest Brown and Phillips, I withdrew from exhibition because it seemed that they were likely to be misunderstood by the general public and to worry it. There are, however, people who like being worried and were sorry not to see those drawings. To them I apologise for my pedantry in excluding from this volume what was taken away from those walls.

Except to the lovers of Primitives, I should perhaps apologise also for *not* excluding my "studies in the eighteen-seventies." No artist can expect the world at large to be so indulgent as he himself is to his early work; nor am I so self-indulgent as to claim, when I study these studies, that I was very precocious. I was born so long ago as 1872, and it is clear from the dates on them that some of the drawings were done at a time when I had reached already my fifth year. Very crude and tentative they are. The pencil faltered in the small hand that held it. But the eye was an honest and an observant one; and I do claim for these portraits of sixteen *hommes alors célèbres* the humble merit of actuality.

M. B.

Rapallo, 1923.

CONTENTS

Frontispiece. The Beneficent Despot

TALES OF THREE NATIONS

	Plate
England, France and Germany in the early years of the nineteenth century	1
England, France and Germany, 1815	2
England, France and Germany in the eighteen-forties	3
England, France and Germany in the eighteen-sixties	4
England, France and Germany in the eighteen-seventies	5
England, France and Germany in the early years of the twentieth century	6
England, France and Germany, 1914	7
England, France and Germany, 1919	8
England, France and Germany, January, 1923	9

VARIOUS PERSONS AND IDEAS

Visits of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, to Windsor Castle	10
Mr. H. G. Wells and Mr. Arnold Bennett	11
Lord Berners	12
Diffidence	13
Mr. Aldous Huxley	14
English Fiction—Ancient and Modern	15
Lord Lascelles inspecting a hat	16
Mr. E. V. Lucas	17
The Glasgow School	18
Mr. Rudyard Kipling	19
Mr. Osbert, and Mr. Sacheverell, Sitwell	20
Bohun Lynch, Kapp, "Quiz" and another	21
Further Economies	22
Sir Arthur Colefax	23
The British Drama	24
Communist Sunday School	25
Mr. A. S. M. Hutchinson, much embarrassed	26
Mr. Frederic Manning	27
"The Flourish set on Youth"	28
Echo	29
Mr. H. Harris in doubt	30
A Flask of Bombarolina	31
Reciprocity	32
In the Shades	33

STUDIES IN THE EIGHTEEN-SEVENTIES

	Plate
Mr. Ashby Blount-Williamson	34
Mr. Sergeant Gibbs	35
Count Zariocinski	36
Mr. Alfred Nixon	37
Admiral Sir Japhet Kenway, K.C.B., etc.	38
Mr. Thomas MacGrath, M.P.	39
General Sir George Rawlinson, V.C., G.C.M.G., etc.	40
Mr. Jacob Stanning, R.A.	41
Sir Archibald Boyd, M.D., F.R.S., etc.	42
Mr. Ambrose Hart	43
Sir Herbert Vansittart	44
Father Vernon	45
Viscount Westerville	46
Mr. Justice Blethlake	47
The Hon. and very Rev. the Dean of Hippister	48
Lord Pentham of Lithway	49

TALES OF THREE NATIONS.

I.

England, France and Germany in the early years of the nineteenth century.

A

II.

England, France and Germany, 1815.

III.

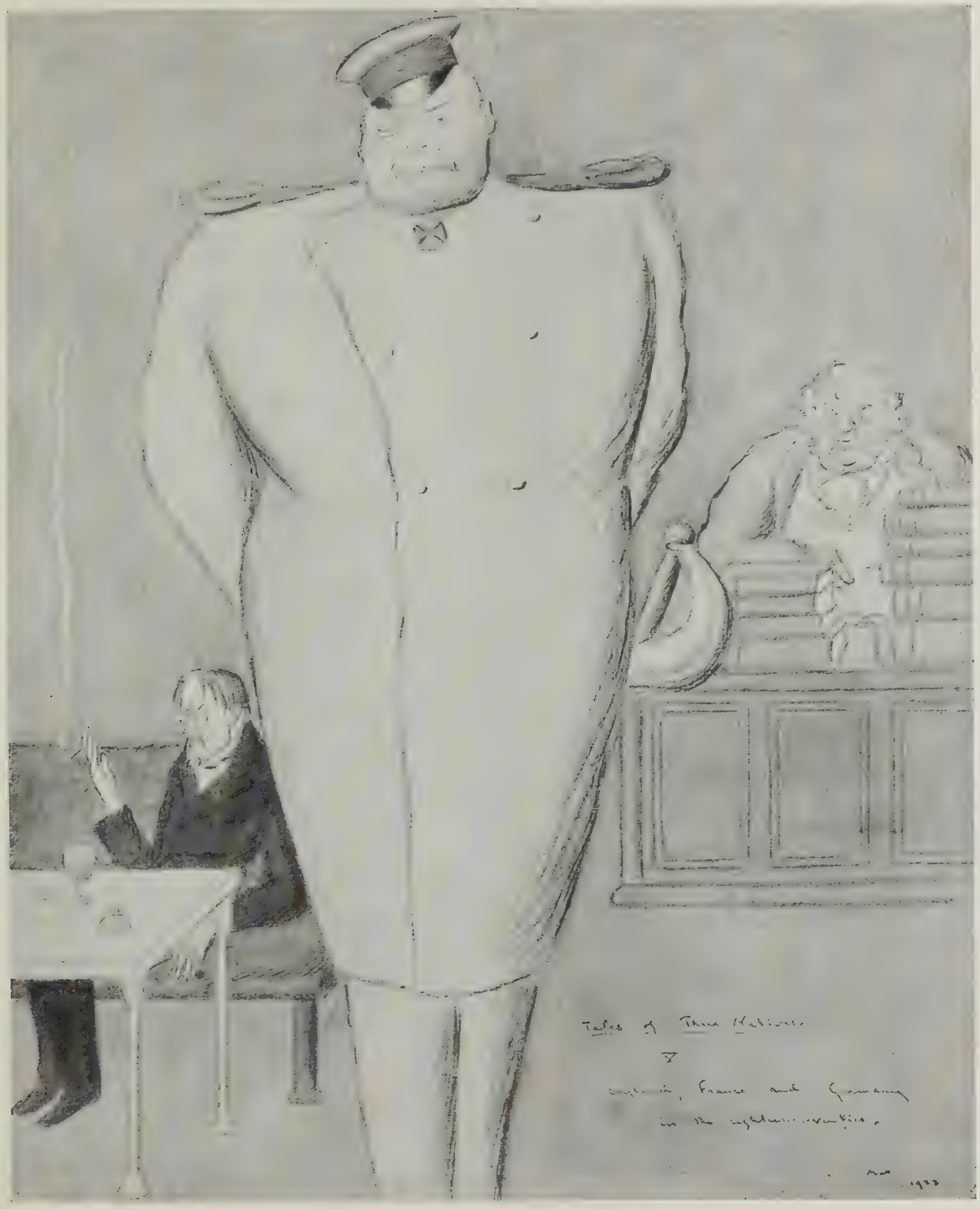
England, France and Germany in the eighteen-forties.

IV.

England, France and Germany in the eighteen-sixties.

V.

England, France and Germany in the eighteen-seventies.



B

VI.

England, France and Germany in the early years of the twentieth century.

Tales of Three Nations
XI
England, France and Germany
in the early years of
the twentieth century

VII.

England, France and Germany, 1914.

VIII.

England, France and Germany, 1919.

IX.

England, France and Germany, January, 1923.

Tales of Three Nations. IX. England, France and Germany. January, 1923.
January, 1923.

C

The rare, the rather awful Visits of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, to Windsor Castle.

The rare, but rather awful visits of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, to Windsor Castle

MR. H. G. WELLS "FRATERNALLY" URGING MR. ARNOLD BENNETT TO TRY TOO. (*December, 1922.*)

MR. BENNETT : "Parliament, eh ? Well, get 'em to raise the screw to forty-thou', and perhaps I'll think of it."

Mr. H. G. Wells "fraternally" urging Mr. Arnold Bennett to Pay Poo.

LORD BERNERS MAKING MORE SWEETNESS THAN VIOLENCE.

Diffidence. (*November, 1922.*)

Sir Arthur Pinero: "Oh, by the way, Mr. Conrad, I was going to ask you: if I apply at Trinity House for a Master Mariner's certificate, d'you think they—er—"

Diffidence.

Sir Arthur Pinero: "Oh, by the way, Mr. Conrad, I was going to ask you: if I apply at Trinity House for a Master Mariner's certificate, d'you think they — er — — — "

Mr. Aldous Huxley

English Fiction—Ancient and Modern.

I. Ancient.

The Hero trying to control a guilty passion.

[*Quite dramatic and interesting, this.*]

II. Modern.

The Hero trying to muster up a guilty passion.

[*Less dramatic, surely, and less interesting.*]

English Fiction — Ancient and Modern.

I. Ancient.

The Hero trying to control a guilty passion.

English Fiction — [illegible]

II. Modern.

The Hero trying to master up a guilty passion

Lord Lascelles (with whom his valet) inspecting the Panama hat designed and trimmed for him by Queen Mary.

Lord Lascelles (with
his valet) inspecting the
Panama hat designed
and trimmed for him
by Queen Mary.
1930

Mr. E. V. Lucas.

E

THE GLASGOW SCHOOL. (*February, 1923.*)

Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE: "Honest? Oh, yes, no doubt. But what price honesty without imagination? Whereas imagination . . ."

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING COMPOSING "THE ABSENT-MINDED BEGGAR."

(*1903*)

Scene from the Lives of
the Poets –
Mr. Rudyard Kipling
composing "The
Absent-Minded
Beggar"

MR. OSBERT, AND MR. SACHEVERELL, SITWELL.

BOHUN LYNCH, EDMOND KAPP, AND "QUIZ," WONDERING HOW LONG THE VETERAN EXILE WILL GO DODDERING ON

F

Further Economies in the Library of Chatsworth.

(*Spring, 1914.*)

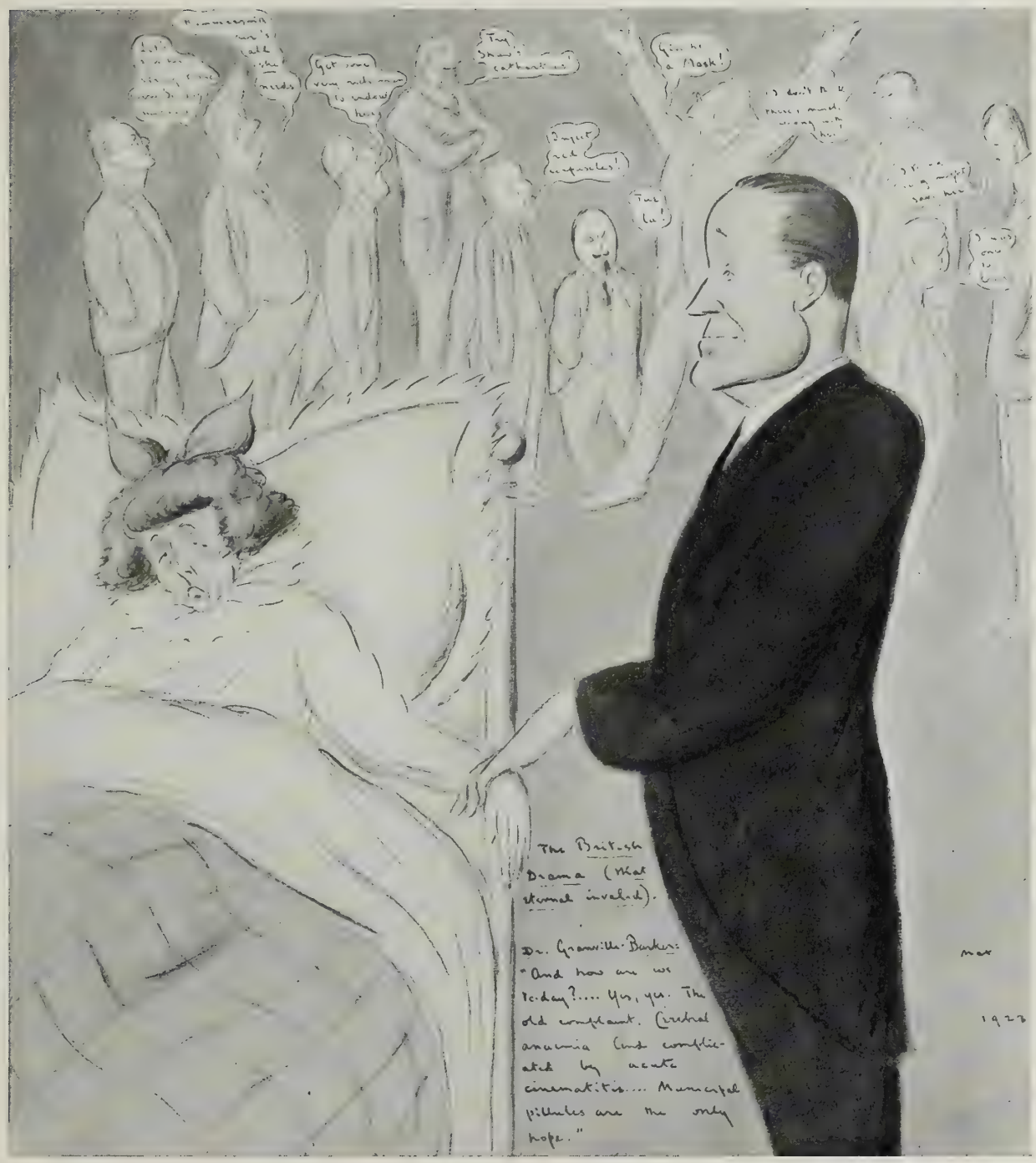
The Duke, having disposed advantageously of his sofa, sleeps where the Caxtons stood.

SMILES ON SELF HELP
A SAILOR'S FIRST DUTY
THE SECOND SEX
LIFE OF BELISARIUS
LIFE AND LETTERS OF LAERMONTOV

Sir Arthur Colefax.

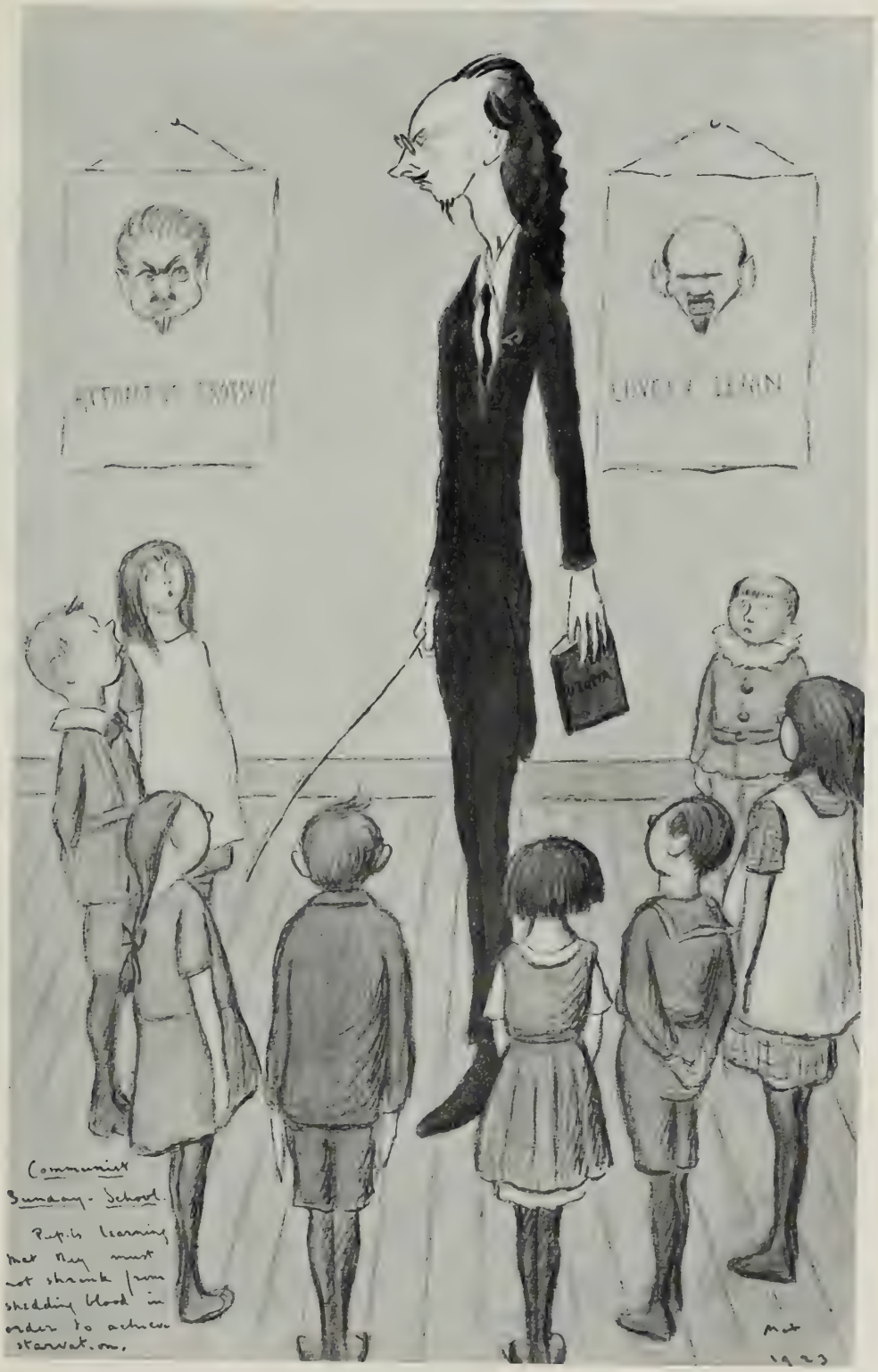
The British Drama (that eternal invalid).

Dr. Granville-Barker: "And how are we to-day? Yes, yes. . . . The old complaint. Cerebral anæmia. And complicated with acute cinematitis. . . . Municipal pillules are the only hope."—Mr. St. John Ervine: "Let her have a strong tonic every Sunday morning."—Mr. Arnold Bennett: "Hammersmith air's all *she* needs."—Lord Howard de Walden: "Get some very rich man to endow her."—Mr. Bernard Shaw: "Try Shavian cathartics!"—Mr. Henry Arthur Jones: "Inject red corpuscles!"—Mr. A. B. Walkley: "Tue la!"—Mr. Gordon Craig: "Give her a Mask!"—Mr. William Archer: "I don't think there's much wrong with her!"—Mr. Masefield: "I think Craig might save her."—Mr. George Moore: "I was once her lover."


The British Drama (that eternal invalid).
Dr. Granville-Barker: "And how are we today?.... Yes, yes. The old complaint. Cerebral anaemia (not complicated by acute cinematitis.... Municipal pillules are the only hope."
mcr
1923

Communist Sunday School.

Pupils learning that they must not shrink from shedding blood in order to achieve starvation.


Communist
Sunday-School.
Pupils learning that they must not shrink from shedding blood in order to achieve socialism.

G

MR. A. S. M. HUTCHINSON, MUCH EMBARRASSED.

Success! So this was she! In his youth he had often dreamed of her; but he had not imagined her quite like this. This was she! Success!

Mr. A. S. M. Hutchinson,
and unknown.
Success! So was she! In her youth he had often dreamed of her, but he had not imagined her quite like this. This was she! Success!

Mr. Frederic Manning, Ventriloquist.

The Flourish set on Youth.

Time (*to the Duke of Connaught*) : "Bless me if I hadn't quite forgotten *you*!"

Echo.

"Why, Uncle Lytton, oh why . . ."

H

MR. H. HARRIS CAREFULLY WEIGHING THE RESPECTIVE MERITS OF NINE INVITATIONS FOR THE NINTH INSTANT.

A FLASK OF BOMBAROLINA; AND MR. NORMAN DOUGLAS BENT ON WINNING AN ADMISSION THAT THE RITES OF THE CHURCH ARE ALL A SURVIVAL OF PAGANISM PURE AND SIMPLE.

A flask of Bombardone, and Mr Norman Douglas bent on winning an admission that the rites of the Church are all a survival of Paganism pure and simple.

Reciprocity.

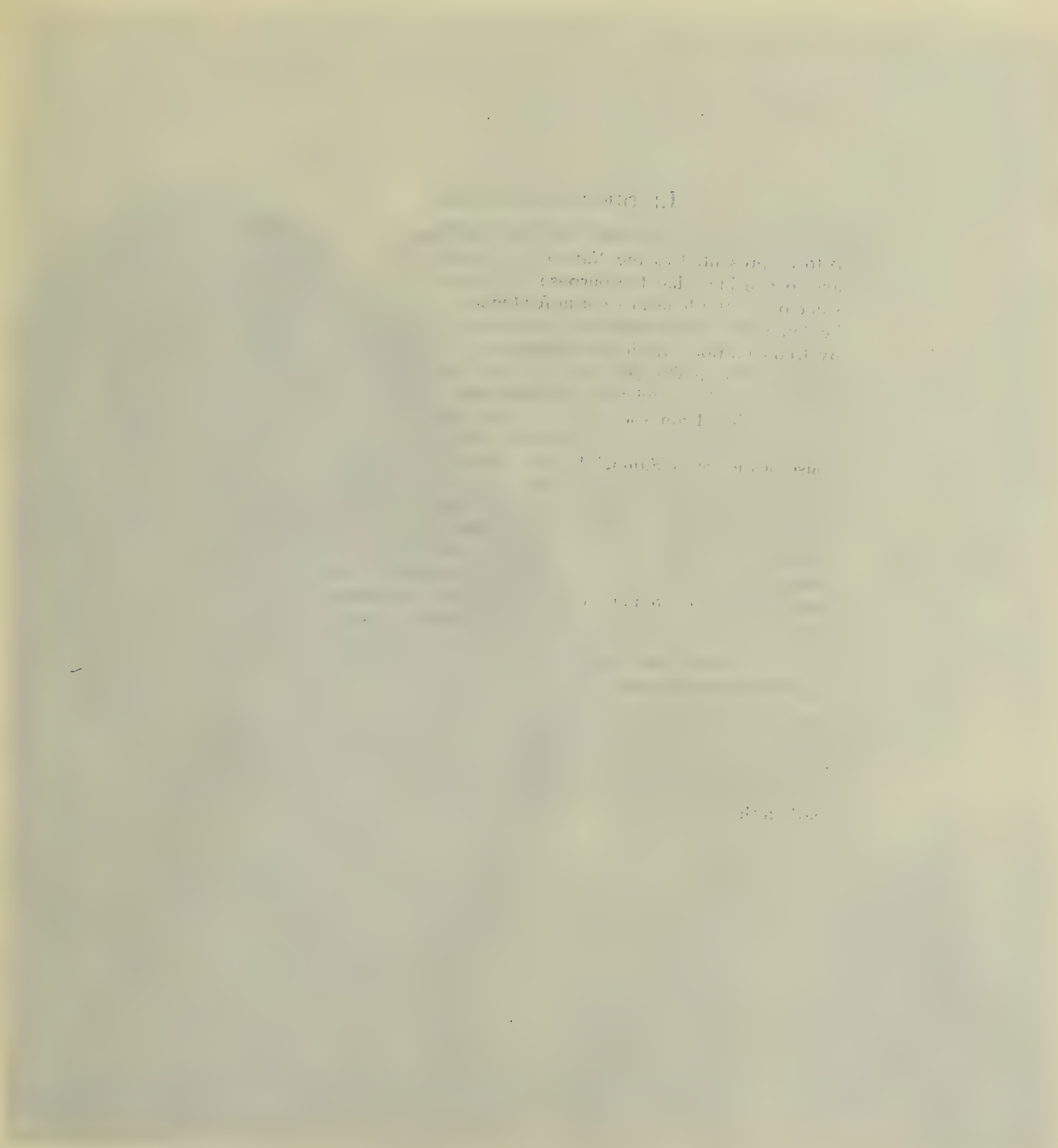
Dame Europa: "And now, young man, now that you've bought up all *my* art-products, I shall be happy to acquire all *yours*; and I am willing to pay a generous price."

Brother Jonathan: "Name it, Marm."

Dame Europa: "Twopence-halfpenny."

[*Brother Jonathan is slightly hurt, but, like a sensible fellow, closes with the offer.*]

MARKET

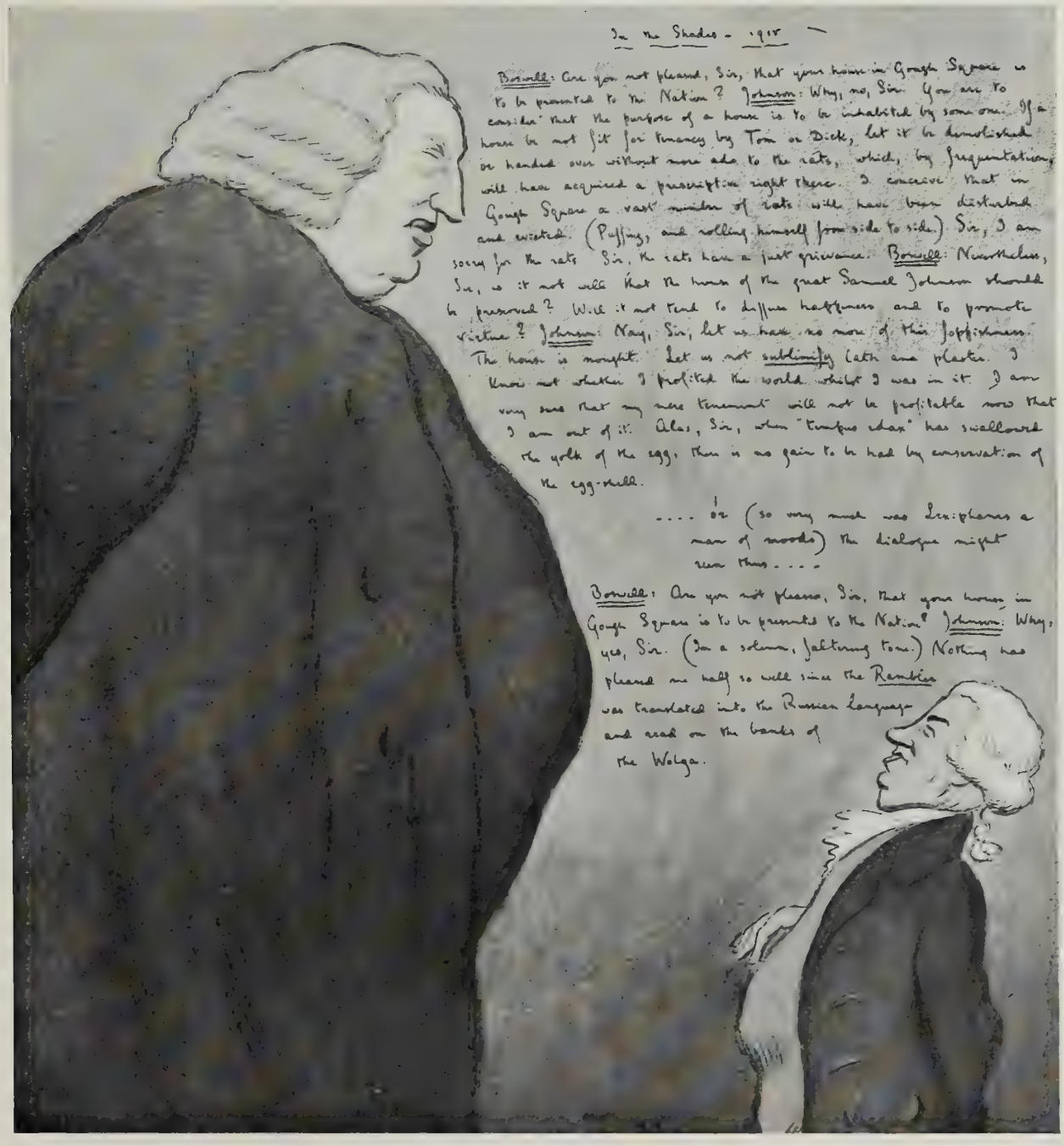


In the Shades—1915.

Boswell: Are you not pleased, Sir, that your house in Gough Square is to be presented to the Nation? Johnson: Why, no, Sir. You are to consider that the purpose of a house is to be inhabited by some one. If a house be not fit for tenancy by Tom or Dick, let it be demolished or handed over without more ado to the rats, which, by frequentation, will have acquired a prescriptive right there. I conceive that in Gough Square a vast number of rats will have been disturbed and evicted. (Puffing, and rolling himself from side to side.) Sir, I am sorry for the rats. Sir, the rats have a just grievance. Boswell: Nevertheless, Sir, is it not well that the house of the great Samuel Johnson should be preserved? Will it not tend to diffuse happiness and to promote virtue? Johnson: Nay, Sir, let us have no more of this foppishness. The house is naught. Let us not *sublimify* lath and plaster. I know not whether I profited the world while I was in it. I am very sure that my mere tenement will not be profitable now that I am out of it. Alas, Sir, when "tempus edax" has swallowed the yolk of the egg, there is no gain to be had by conservation of the egg-shell.

. . . or, (so very much was Lexiphanes a man of moods) the dialogue might run thus . . .

Boswell: Are you not glad, Sir, that your house in Gough Square is to be presented to the Nation? Johnson: Why, yes, Sir. (In a solemn, faltering tone.) Nothing has pleased me half so well since the *Rambler* was translated into the Russian language and read on the banks of the Wolga.


In the Shades - 1915
Boswell: Are you not pleased, Sir, that your house in Gough Square is to be presented to the Nation? Johnson: Why, no, Sir. You are to consider that the purpose of a house is to be inhabited by some one. If a house is not fit for tenancy by Tom or Dick, let it be demolished or handed over without more ado to the rats, which, by frequentation, will have acquired a prescriptive right there. I conceive that in Gough Square a vast number of rats will have been disturbed and evicted. (Puffing, and rolling himself from side to side.) Sir, I am sorry for the rats. Sir, the rats have a just grievance. Boswell: Nevertheless, Sir, is it not well that the house of the great Samuel Johnson should be preserved? Will it not tend to diffuse happiness and to promote virtue? Johnson: Nay, Sir, let us have no more of this Joffishness. The house is nought. Let us not sublimify lath and plaster. I know not whether I profited the world whilst I was in it. I am very sure that my mere tenement will not be profitable now that I am out of it. Alas, Sir, when "tempus edax" has swallowed the yolk of the egg, there is no gain to be had by conservation of the egg-shell.
.... Or (so very much was Lexiphanes a man of words) the dialogue might run thus....
Boswell: Are you not pleased, Sir, that your house in Gough Square is to be presented to the Nation? Johnson: Why, yes, Sir. (In a solemn, faltering tone.) Nothing has pleased me half so well since the Rambler was translated into the Russian language and read on the banks of the Wolga.

STUDIES IN THE EIGHTEEN-SEVENTIES.

1. MR. ASHBY BLOUNT-WILLIAMSON. (*1873.*)

Was an intimate friend of Count Metternich, has been sought in counsel by a long line of our Prime Ministers, and possesses the finest Guido Reni in England.

Was an intimate
friend of Count
Metternich, has
been sought in
council by a
long line of
our Prime
Ministers, and
possesses the
finest Guido
Reni in
England.
1873

2. MR. SERGEANT GIBBS. (*1875.*)

His eloquence, though rude, wrings verdicts.

3. COUNT ZARIOCINSKI. (*1874.*)

His Excellency has everywhere owed much, though not more than he readily acknowledges, to feminine interest and influence.

Count Zamoyski
1874

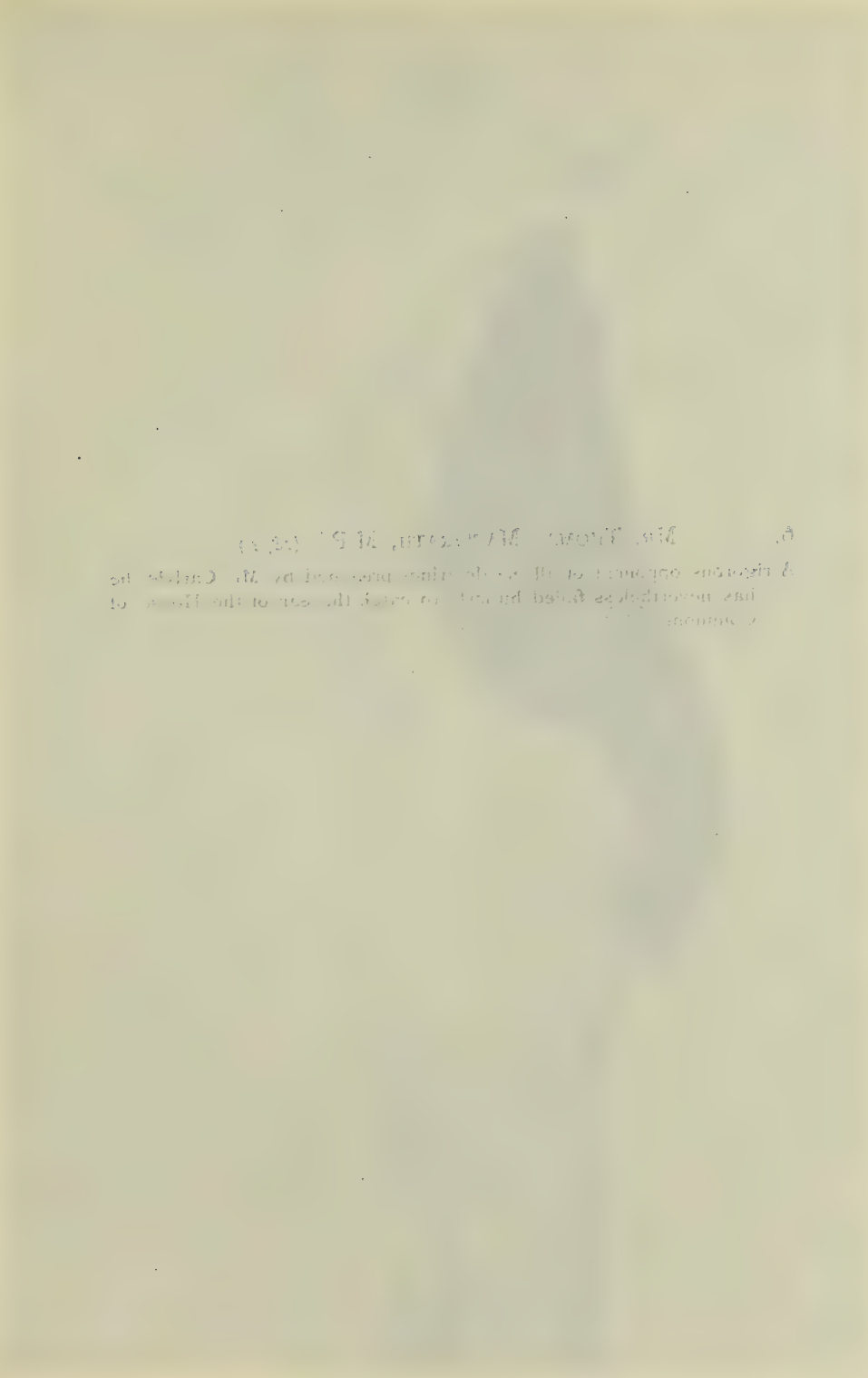
4. MR. ALFRED NIXON. (*1876.*)

Almost the last repository and exponent of the great tradition of English acting, he survives to shame the brood of inarticulate amateurs who have jostled him from the boards.

m. Alfred Nixon
Almost the
last representative
and exponent
of the great
Tradition of
English acting,
he survives to
shame the brood
of inarticulate
amateurs who have
jostled him from the
boards.
1896

5. Admiral Sir Japhet Kenway, K.C.B., etc. (*1873.*)

Without recanting his famous apophthegm that Steam tolls the knell of seamanship, he continues to be personally the cheeriest and pleasantest of men.



6. Mr. Thomas MacGrath, M.P. (*1874.*)

A rigorous opponent of all the doctrines preached by Mr. Carlyle, he has nevertheless failed hitherto to catch the ear of the House of Commons.

Mr. Thomas MacGrath, M.P.

A vigorous opponent of all the doctrines preached by Mr. Carlyle, he has nevertheless failed hitherto to catch the ear of the House of Commons.

1874

7. General Sir George Rawlinson, V.C., G.C.M.G., etc.
(*1873.*)

He is convinced, rightly or wrongly, that the abolition of the Purchase System must entail the instant surrender of England to whatever foreign power shall first attack her.

8. Mr. Jacob Stanning, R.A. (*1874.*)

Let the pundits argue about the technical merits of his work: posterity will hold that no painter of our time has shown a deeper insight into the character and career of Mary, Queen of Scots.

mr. Jacob Stanning, R. A.
1874
Let the pundits argue about the
technical merits of his work: posterity
will hold that no painter of our time has
shown a deeper insight into the character
and career of Mary Queen of Scots.

9. Sir Archibald Boyd, M.D., F.R.S., etc., etc. (*1875.*)

Has rendered noble service to medical science, and is generally accounted the best *raconteur* in London.

Mr 1875

Sir Archibald Boyd,
M.D., F.R.S., etc.
etc., etc.

Has rendered noble service to medical science, and is
generally acknowledged to be the best raconteur in London.

10. MR. AMBROSE HART. (*1875.*)

Having adapted already upwards of one-hundred-and-twenty comedies, dramas, farces and melodramas from the French, he bids fair to raise English theatrical art from that slough of despond in which it has so long lain submerged.

Mr. Anthony Hart.
Having adapted already
upwards of one hundred and Twenty
comedies, dramas, farces and
melodramas from the French,
he looks fair to raise
English Theatrical art
from that slough of
despond in which
it has so long
been submerged.
1875

11. SIR HERBERT VANSITTART. (*1873.*)

Ah, did you once see Prinny plain,
And did he stop and speak to you
And did you speak to him again?
How strange it seems, and new!

Sir Hubert Vernon
1873

12. FATHER VERNON. (*1873.*)

Amidst all that he has suffered for the Faith of his adoption, he has the consolation of knowing that ladies of even the highest fashion have professed to find no flaw in his dialectics.

13. VISCOUNT WESTERVILLE. (*1876.*)

In these days, when statesmanship has given place to glibness, his breakdown in seconding the Address to the Throne last week is an earnest of the great services that he is destined to render to his country.

1976

14. MR. JUSTICE BLETHLAKE. (*1874.*)

In his ninety-fifth year he still charges juries with not less of vigour and with far more of wisdom than Don Quixote charged windmills.

UPB

15. The Hon. and very Rev. the Dean of Hippister.
(*1876.*)

Albeit the warmest of his admirers did not claim for him in his famous controversy with Professor Tyndal a more than moral victory, his simple dignity and force of character are such that whenever he occupies the pulpit of the Cathedral with which he has so long been connected even the most thoughtful among his hearers are often listeners also.

16. LORD PENTHAM OF LITHWAY. (*1874.*)

In an age of chapmen and hucksters he has done nothing to tarnish the great name he bears, and honourably remains almost as poor as the majority of his creditors.

1874